The Magnolia

Columbus Garden Club Newsletter

September, 2020

A Letter From Your Garden Club President

It's beginning to feel like Fall. Rainy days and reducing temperatures. We're beginning to see more businesses opening up and we have begun venturing out more. So, are you ready to take the Club forward and begin meeting again?

Well, saddle up your horses and plan to get together on Wednesday October 14, 2020. Watch for an email that will detail our agenda and times.

Your officers hit the ground running this week and put us on track again. Looking forward to seeing friends again and sharing our love for gardening

God bless and keep you safe until we meet in October

Debbie

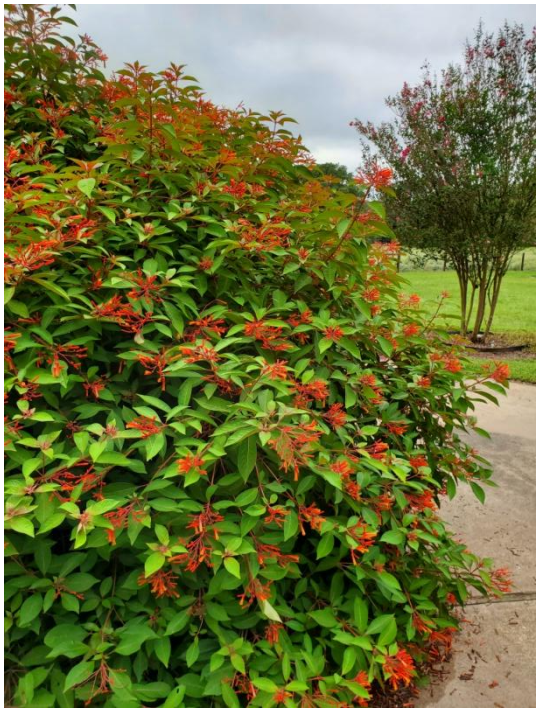
Keeping in Touch through Pictures

We all love our flowers and we love everyone else's flowers and enjoy seeing pictures of each other's flowers, gardens, wildlife and garden crafts. So here are some pictures from our club members to share with you. Enjoy!

Janet and Keith Johnson enjoy watching the wildlife at Falling Tree Ranch. This handsome buck is a frequent visitor to this safe haven and good place to eat, too.

Velma was unable to go on the club's trip to Peckerwood Garden in Hempstead last March but Lana Miller brought back a "woodland cimbidian orchid" (on right) and gave it to her. No, it didn't look like this when she gave it to her. It kind of looked like a small grassy lily… like a small day lily. But one day it bloomed and voila! How pretty!

On the left is a purple oxalis mixed in with a dracaena and a small palm. It has survived on Velma's porch getting watered "whenever". She has enjoyed watching her hummingbird bushes ablaze with vivid blooms that the hummingbirds have thoroughly enjoyed. There were hummingbirds flying all around the bush as she took this picture but they were too fast to capture on camera…or Velma's a little slow.



If you would like to share your pictures in the next newsletter, just email it to Velma at velma.george07@gmail.com.

EDUCATION CORNER

Lana Miller is sharing these interesting facts about bees. Bees can travel 6-9 miles per hour "loaded" and 8 mph "empty". Their flight range is usually a 2 mile radius or 8000 acres. Total flight during life is 500 miles in 5-30 days. 50-80 percent of flying bees collect nectar. The Queen is fed every 20-30 minutes at peak brood rearing. In a normal hive, in active season, there will be: 300 to 1000 drones, 25,000 older foragers, 25,000 young hive bees, 9,000 uncapped larvae, 6,000 eggs incubating, and 20,000 capped brood incubating.

Lana also shares some information from Kathy Huber (gardening columnist for Houston Chronicle and a neighbor when Lana and Allen lived in Houston) about sowing wildflowers. The article is titled, **"Get sowing this fall for wildflowers next spring"**

"---Gardeners easily can enjoy native blooms next spring and early summer by sowing seeds this fall.
"---The ideal time to sow wildflowers here is October through mid-December. Wildflowers are easy if you give them good drainage, sun and seed-to-soil contact.
"To ensure good seed-to-soil contact: Prepare the area for sowing by removing weeds and other vegetation. Rake the soil an inch down. To aid in distribution of seed….combine the seed with sand in a ratio of four parts sand to one part seed.
"Uniformly broadcast the seed, then repeat in a perpendicular direction. Press the seed into the soil with a roller or by walking across the area.
"To ensure germination, water after you sow if there is insufficient rain. Pull unwanted weeds such as crab crass and Johnson grass.
"Once your wildflowers have bloomed…allow them to set seed for yet another year of blooms."

If you would like to share information about your favorite plant or flower with club members in the next newsletter, just email it to Velma at velma.george07@gmail.com.

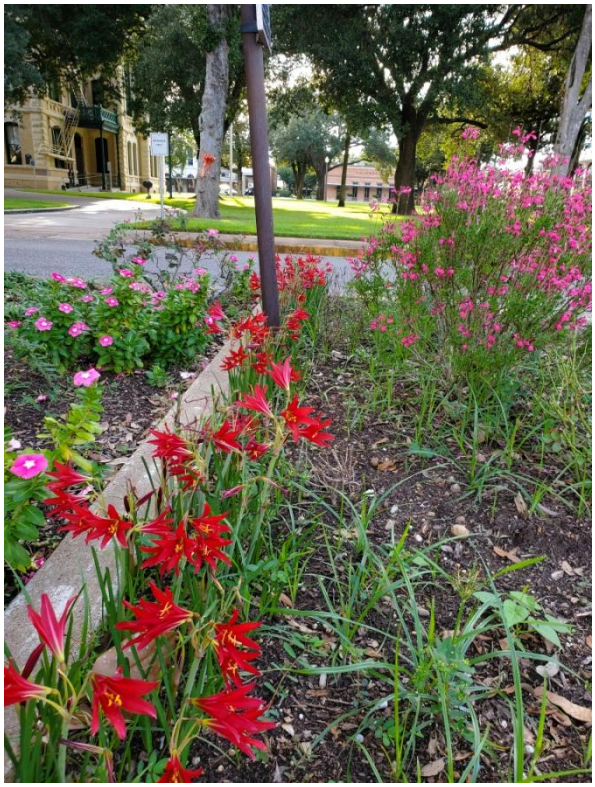
On the lighter side

"What does the letter "A" have in common with a flower? They both have bees coming after them." – Kim Roblin

"Bulb: potential flower buried in Autumn, never to be seen again." – Henry Beard

"Gardening requires lots of water – most of it in the form of perspiration." – Lou Erickson

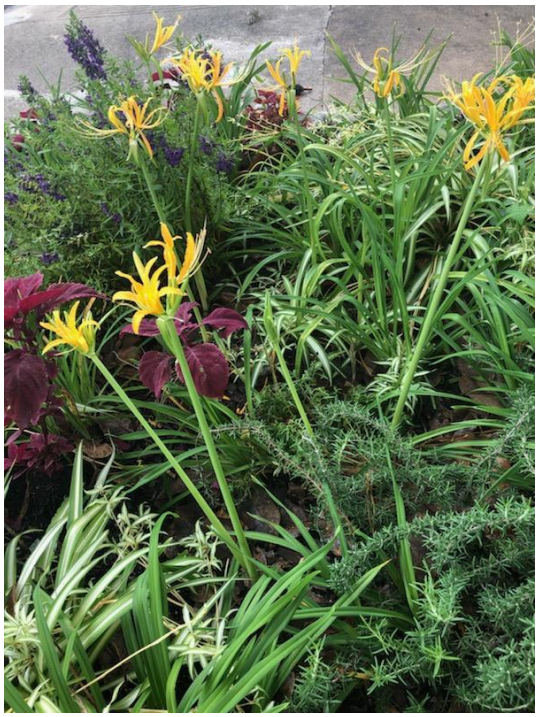
And this last one is for Regena Williamson. If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? ……..Pilgrims.



Maintaining Gardens Around Town

September has always been a happy time because it traditionally was the time when children went back to school, County Fairs and school carnivals are planned, the hint of Fall is in the air, the promise of cooler days to come and a whole new landscape of flowers. Marian Schonenberg says one flower to look forward to in September is the emergence of "school house" lilies (ox blood lilies). Hope you have noticed these dark red lilies at the Court Oak Bed? The bright pink salvia greggi and pink vincas complement the vivid lilies.

The pots around the courthouse square have been worked on. Velma says this year has just been a challenge for our signature Red Head Coleuses. Usually they do very well up to the first frost. But this year between deer munching, some plants mysteriously finding their way out of the pots, some very hot sun and



very high winds that played havoc with them, it has been a definite challenge. Some of the coleuses have been cut back, some pulled up and some have been replanted deeper. Some fall chrysanthemums have been added to some of the pots and a **work day is planned for Monday, October 5 at 9:00 a.m. We will work on planting some of the pots and also decorate the courthouse planting areas for Fall.** Please come help.

The Blue Star Memorial garden has a very special flower coming up (on left) and right on time. Sandy Barrett says the beautiful gold Lycoris (spider lilies) have sprung up adding that special pop of color to this beautiful bed. It is full of many different plants.

NOTE: Chamber of Commerce is having a Scarecrow Decorating Contest. **Anyone interested in making one for garden club?** Or yourself? Scarecrows will be displayed around the outside of the Chamber of Commerce office until end of contest and then will be placed around town.

Colorado County Fair Decorating - Janet Johnson and husband Keith delivered bales of hay as a backdrop for decorations at the entrance of the exhibit hall at the Fair.

Sharon Wegenhoft, Brenda Boehm, Debbie Braden and Velma Harrington brought other farm and ranch items to decorate with using the theme of the Fair, "There's No Time Like Fair Time". Red, White and Blue was used in the theme too. Thanks to everyone who helped.

September Yard of the Month

Home of Ron and Rita Rhodes

1524 Travis Street

Landscaping includes vincas, ferns, and beautiful shrubs.

(Did you notice the great supersized pictures in the Colorado County Citizen of September Yard of the Month and Community Beautification?)

September Community Beautification

Kitchen Thyme

Julia Hill

2002 Hwy. 71S

This business has beautiful landscaping with three fountains and different kinds of ornamental grasses.

Awards

CLUB AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2019 Gold Club Competition

National Garden Clubs, Inc. – 2018-19 Awards

EC-2 Litter/Reclamation/Recycling	1st Place
L-1 Landscape/Blue Star Memorial	Certificate of Appreciation

Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. – 2019 – 20

EC-2 Litter/Recycling/Reclamation	1ST Place
L-1 Landscaping & Landscape Design/Blue Star Memorial	1st Place
MP-2 National Garden Week	3rd Place
PUB-1 Publications/Newsletter 1A	2nd Place
YB-1 Yearbooks – Class 3	3rd Place
TGC Club Service Award	Gold Citation
TGC Club Rating	Silver Club
TGC Contributions	Headquarters Fund

District IV Coastal Prairie Council of TGC – 2018-19

Silver Club

HP-2Decoration of Historic Building	1ST Place
EC-2 Litter/Reclamation/Recycling	1ST Place
TGC National Garden Week	1ST Place
MP3-A Website	1ST Place
YB1 (3) Yearbook	1st Place
TGC Club Service	3586 Points
President's Report	Gold Medal

Contributions	Arbor Day
	Brookwood Garden Therapy
	Scholarship Fund
	Seeds for Life

Certificates of Recognition

Garden Angel	Sandy Barrett

90 Year Old Member	Ginner Fehrenkamp
90 Year Old Member	Lyn Buescher
Life Member	Lyn Buescher
Life Member	Joan Obenhaus
Life Member	Neva Lou Hubenak
Life Member	JoAnn Sebesta
Life Member	Margaret Miller

District IV News

Sandra Evans has shared with us the updated District IV Calendar for 2020/2021. At this time we all have to be flexible due to the current conditions so do watch for any further updates. Also, keep in mind that many meetings, although listed will likely be held virtually.

September 14-17. 2020 Flower Show School II: CANCELLED
September 24-26, 2020 National Garden Clubs Fall Meeting: CANCELLED
October 7, 2020 Dist.IV Board Meeting. 9:30 a.m. Bayland Community Center, Houston
October 10, 2020 Plant Sale & Food Drive. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs. First Christian Church, 1601 Sunset Boulevard. 10 a.m.—1 p.m.
October 18—20, **2020** 89th TGC Fall Convention. Y.O Ranch Hotel, Kerrville, TX.
October 13—15, **2020** Flower Show School: FSS III: CANCELLED
November 2, 2020 Our Arbor Day Event. At 1.30 p.m. at The Fisher House III Hospital. Please send Ann Gay the names of your members who have passed this year So that we may include them in the Memorial part of the ceremony.
January 25-28, 2021 Houston Flower Show School III Houston, TX, Bayland Community Center Mary Vacek, Regena Williamson, Registrar, 316-550-1485
November 13, 2020 Houston Federation of Garden Clubs A NGC Small Standard Flower Show will be held during Federation General Meeting. See Federation Newsletter for further details. Anyone may enter a design or horticulture exhibit. Registrar:-Mary Vacek
January 2021 Deadline for Area Coordinators to send Presidents Reports to District Director.
February 22-23, 2021 Landscape Design School Course II George Bush Library, College Station, TX
February 25-27, 2021 Garden School: Course III San Antonio Garden Center, 3310 N. New Braunfels, San Antonio, TX 78209. Chairman: Cal Lussen: 830-837-5262. lussen@att.net
March 24, 2021 District IV Spring Convention: Bellaire UMC, 4417 Bellaire Blvd., Bellaire, TX. The Theme will be “Hats Off to Gardeners”. Meda Wogan, Convention Chairman, 281-469-0261: tomandmeda@aol.com

April 5—9, 2021 TGC Spring Convention. San Antonio

April 22—23, 2021 SCR 91st Annual Convention, Little Rock, AR. May 17—20, 2021 National Garden Clubs Convention Rutherford, NJ

September 27-28, 2021 Landscape Design School: Course III George Bush Library, College Station.

October 4-7, 2021 Flower Show School II. Bayland Community Center, Houston. Chairman: Mary Vacek. Regena Williamson, Registrar. 316-550-1485

Houston Federation of Garden Clubs – Plant Sale and Food Drive

First Christian Church
1601 Sunset Boulevard
Houston, TX. 77005

Saturday, October 10th

10:00 - 1:00

Plant Sale Instructions

Plants and Boutique items can be delivered Friday, October 9 (General Meeting) or Saturday, October 10 by 8:00 A.M.

1) We will accept any number of plants. Please be generous.
2) Plants must be in a clean pot with no nursery stickers. Pots with stamped nursery names may be used.
3) Plants should be of good quality and well groomed.
4) Popsicle/craft sticks are good to use for plant label.
5) Each plant should have a label with plant description.
6) Use clear packing tape to cover labels to protect from water. Include one picture of plant in bloom for example.
7) ***Send the attached list of plant category and number of plants in each category to Linda Kuper at Kuperfamily80@gmail.com***

8) Please use the following plant label on each plant.

Common Name _____

Botanical Name_____

Height/Width_____

Circle kind and needs :

Type:	**Light:**	**Soil:**	**Hardiness:**
Annual	Sun	Moist	Hardy
Perennial	Partial sun	Boggy	Tender
	Shade	Dry	Root hardy
		Alkaline	
		Acidic	

Houston Federation Plant Sale

Our horticulture exhibits always have many unusual plants our members have grown in their gardens. Come buy some new and interesting plants for your gardens. There will be plants, Garden Art, Decorative Pots, and Floral Containers.

Food Drive Donations

There is a huge food shortage in the Houston area. At the plants sale we will be collecting non-perishable food items for distribution by the First Christian Church. Food items can be dropped off at October 9, 9:30-2:30 and on Saturday 10 -2.

Bring your wagon or cart to shop. Social distancing required. Facemask Required. Sanitation provided.

KEEP THESE GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS AND FAMILIES IN YOUR THOUGHTS:

Remember all of our gardeners emeritus. A cheery card or phone call might brighten their day. Actually many garden club members I have talked to lately have expressed that they are missing their friends in the club. But I am not aware of anyone needing our thoughts or prayers. If you know of anyone that needs our thoughts, please let Susan Peletz know so she can send a card and

let Velma know so she can put it in the newsletter. Let's keep in touch.

<u>October Birthdays:</u>

01	**Sharon Roensch**
02	**Sharon Heimann**
03	**Sandy Coffman**
07	**Dale Heinsohn**
22	**Janet Johnson**
26	**Debbie Braden**
26	**Beth Easterling**

Hope you all have a wonderful birthday.

Father, kindle in our hearts an increasing love for creatures of our garden. Quicken our minds to a keener appreciation of Thy lovely gifts. Use our hands as instruments to work Thy divine plan. Teach us that what Thou has given in love is ours to cultivate in faith. Amen.